

IN THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 2, 3, 4 and 5 are amended to correct errors and to conform to the specification. Replacement Sheets including amended Figs. 2, 3, 4 and 5 are included as attachments, as are Annotated Sheets showing in detail the changes made.

REMARKS

Specification

The specification is amended to correct errors.

Drawings

The drawings are amended to correct errors and to conform to the specification.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3-5, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by applicant's admitted prior art (Fig. 3). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 is amended to recite a pair of feedback resistors that are sized so that signal current through the first resistor is provided primarily by the output stages. Support for this limitation can be found throughout the specification, for example at page 7, lines 8-10 and page 8, lines 3-6. In contrast, the prior art of Fig. 3 discloses an arrangement in which the signal current through the gain selection resistors connected between the two input transistors would be provided primarily by the input transistors themselves. See, e.g., the specification at page 7, lines 1-7. Note the high resistance ($20K\Omega$) of R56 and R57 in Fig. 3 which would prevent amplifiers A1 and A2 from supplying appreciable signal current through any of the gain selection resistors. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by the prior art. Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's specific interpretations relating to claims 3 and 4. However, since claims 3-4 depend from claim 1, they are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above.

Claim 13 is amended to recite a pair of feedback resistors that are sized so that signal current through the first resistor is provided primarily by the output stages. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, the prior art does not disclose this feature. For at least this reason, claim 13 is not anticipated by the prior art, nor is claim 14, which depends from claim 13.

New Claim

New claim 20, which depends from claim 13, is added. Support for the subject matter of claim 20 can be found in the specification, for example, at page 7, line 20.

Nonelected Claims

Claims 2, 8 and 9, although withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to nonelected species, are amended for consistency with the amendments made to claim 1. Upon allowance of generic claim 1, applicant is entitled to allowance of dependent claims 2 and 6-10.

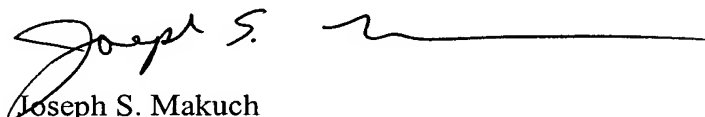
Conclusion

Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Customer No. 20575

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph S. Makuch", followed by a long horizontal line.

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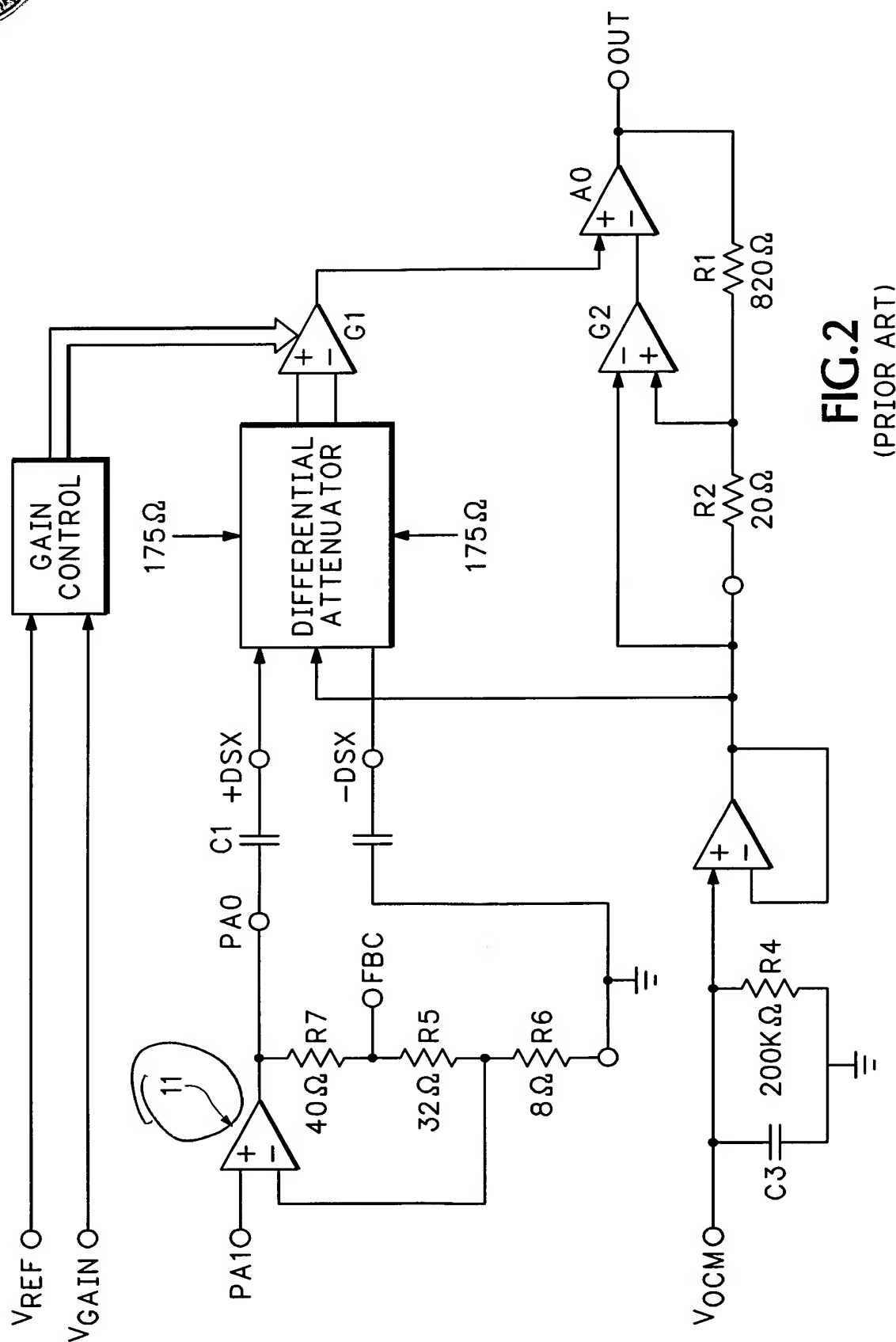


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes – Sheet 2/4

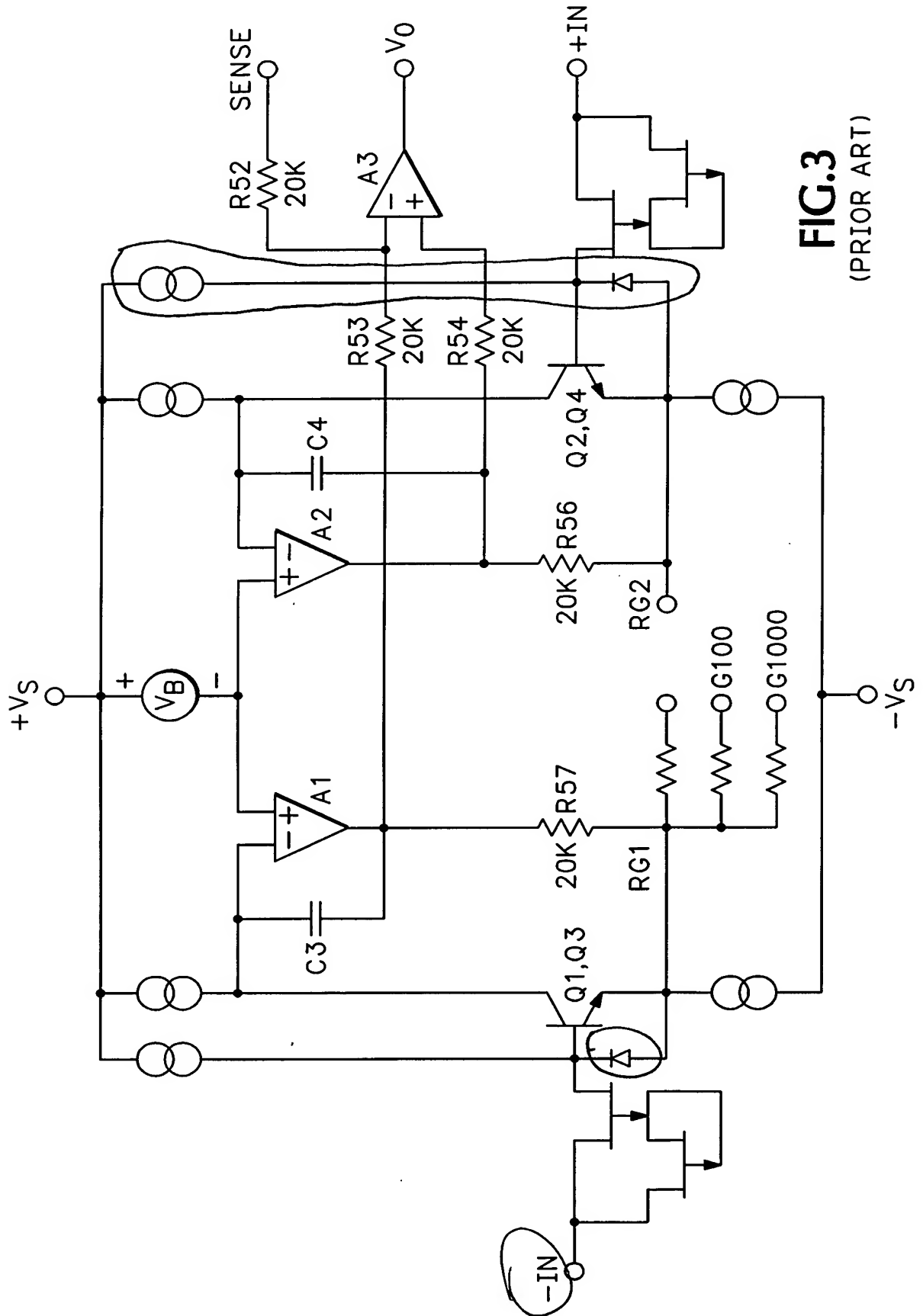


FIG.3
 (PRIOR ART)



